

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-25 were pending. No claims have been amended. Therefore, upon entry of this amendment, which is respectfully requested, claims 1-25 will remain pending.

Claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Galindo-Legaria *et al.* (US 2005/0050041 A1) in view of Guthrie *et al.* (US 6,587,854 B1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants hereby submit a Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.131, signed by the inventors, evidencing that the inventors conceived of the inventions as claimed in the current application prior to August 29, 2003, the effective date of the Galindo-Legaria reference, and that the inventors and the undersigned were diligent in reducing the inventions to practice from before August 29, 2003 until the application was filed on September 23, 2003.

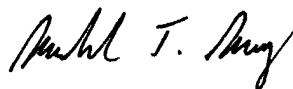
Therefore, Galindo-Legaria is not a proper prior art reference that can be used in a rejection of the pending claims, and as such the rejection is traversed. Additionally, Guthrie itself also fails to teach or suggest the limitations of the pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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